

Practice Guideline on Communication and Collaboration

Pause and Reflect

Consider the following scenario:

Noor, an RECE new to practice, and her colleague Francine, an RECE who has been practising for many years, work together in an after-school program. It's the end of September, and they have worked together for about a month. Their relationship is not the strongest. Noor feels Francine does not always trust and respect her due to her lack of practice experience. They've developed a daily routine of taking the children outdoors at around 4 p.m. Francine is typically responsible for conducting head counts, while Noor usually gathers any materials required. One day, Noor notices Francine seems to be in a rush to get the children outside. Noor suspects Francine forgot to conduct a head count. Noor knows she should follow up with Francine to make sure all the children are accounted for, but she feels too nervous and uncomfortable to say anything. It turns out that Francine did forget to conduct a head count that day, and two children were left inside the school.

- **What were the communication and collaboration challenges in this scenario?**

- **What was it that directly led to the children being left inside the school?**

- **What would you have done differently in this situation?**

- **If you had colleagues facing similar struggles, how could you support them?**